

RECEIVED 23 MAR 2006

5047.1010

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Examiner: To Be Assigned	Art Unit: To Be Assigned
Re: Application of:	<b>Dietmar KUBEIN-MEESENBURG</b>
Serial No.:	To Be Assigned
Filed:	Herewith
For:	<b>ARTIFICIAL JOINT</b>
Customer No.:	23280

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 15, 2006

S i r:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, Applicant hereby makes of record the documents listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 Form (1 page) for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. While the references are being submitted herewith, some or all of the references may not constitute prior art under the U.S. patent laws.

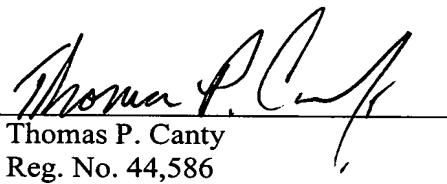
This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b), before the mailing date of a First Office Action, therefore no fee is believed due. In the event any additional fee is due in connection with this response or if any fee has been overpaid, the deficiency or overpayment should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

5047.1010

It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the accompanying PTO-1449 form be considered and made of record. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable over all of the references made of record at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO-1449  
 (REV. 7-80)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY DOCKET NO.

5047.1010

APPLICATION NO

To Be Assigned

**LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

Dietmar KUBEIN-MEESBURG et al.

FILING DATE

Herewith

GROUP

To Be Assigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIA TE
	A01	6,099,570	Aug. 8, 2000	Livet et al.	623	20.21	
	A02	6,312,471	Nov. 6, 2001	Kubein-Meesenburg et al.	623	23.11	
	A03	5,556,432	Sep. 17, 1996	Kubein-Meesenburg et al.	623	20	
	A04	6,120,543	Sep. 19, 2000	Kubein-Meesenburg et al.	623	20	
	A05	5,738,686	Apr. 14, 1998	Kubein-Meesenburg et al.	623	20	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A06	DE 44 28 290	Feb. 15, 1996	DE-Germany			See Abstract	
	A07	DE 27 42 464	Mar. 22, 1979	DE-Germany			See International Search Report	
	A08	EP 463 011	Jan. 20, 1993	EP-Europe			See Abstract; See specification, para.[0002]	
	A09	EP 0 969 781	Dec. 18, 2002	EP-Europe			Corresponds to US 6,312,471	
	A10	EP 0 617 595	Mar. 12, 1997	EP-Europe			Corresponds to US 5,556,432	
	A11	EP 0 734 701	Oct. 11, 2000	EP-Europe			See Abstract; See specification, para.[0004]	
	A12	EP 0 831 758	Aug. 29, 2001	EP-Europe			Corresponds to US 6,120,543	
	A13	EP 0 691 830	Aug. 25, 1999	EP-Europe			Corresponds to US 5,738,686	

**OTHER REFERENCES** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	A14	International Search Report for PCT/DE2004/011888 (2 pages)
	A15	
	A16	
	A17	

**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.